



COOPERATIVE INSTITUTE FOR MESOSCALE METEOROLOGICAL STUDIES

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U N I V E R S I T Y O F O K L A H O M A — N A T I O N A L O C E A N I C A N D A T M O S P H E R I C A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

The Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies (CIMMS) at the University of Oklahoma is a NOAA Cooperative Institute primarily sponsored by NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. CIMMS was established in 1978 to promote research collaboration between NOAA and OU by providing a center where government and academic scientists may work together to learn about and apply their knowledge of mesoscale weather and regional-scale climate processes. CIMMS concentrates its research efforts and resources on the following principal themes: (1) basic convective and mesoscale research, (2) forecast improvements, (3) climatic effects of/controls on mesoscale processes, (4) socioeconomic impacts of mesoscale weather systems and regional-scale climate variations, (5) Doppler weather radar research and development, and (6) climate change monitoring and detection.

CIMMS' NOAA research partners in Norman, Oklahoma, include the OAR National Severe Storms Laboratory and four National Weather Service units: Radar Operations Center for the WSR-88D (NEXRAD) Program, Storm Prediction Center, Warning Decision Training Branch, and the Norman Weather Forecast Office. CIMMS also collaborates with scientists at the NWS Southern Region Headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, and at the National Climatic Data Center of the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service in Asheville, North Carolina.

CIMMS research contributes to the NOAA mission through improvement of the observation, analysis, understanding, and prediction of weather elements and systems and climate anomalies ranging in size from cloud nuclei to multi-state areas. Advances in observational and analytical techniques lead to improved understanding of the evolution and structure of these phenomena. Understanding provides the foundation for more accurate prediction of hazardous weather and anomalous regional climate and for better warning decision making. Better prediction contributes to improved social and economic welfare. Because small-, meso-, and regional-scale phenomena also are important causes and manifestations of climate, CIMMS research is contributing to improved understanding of the global climate system and regional climate variability and change.

CIMMS has grown to a professional staff of 90, including 30 Ph.D. scientists, and supports 30 graduate research assistants. CIMMS research collaborations have resulted in 428 scientific publications, including 210 peer-reviewed publications, since June 1, 2001.

